

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A mobile animal hospital ~~for treating animals in a feedlot operation,~~
~~the mobile animal hospital~~ comprising:

a trailer having a frame and at least one set of wheels;

a squeeze chute mounted on the trailer, and wherein the squeeze chute remains stationary in a horizontal plane with respect to the set of wheels ~~and wherein an entrance portion of the squeeze chute faces a back of the trailer, and an exit portion of the squeeze chute faces a front of the trailer;~~
and

wherein the at least one set of wheels ~~are~~is adapted to raise relative to the frame of the trailer such that at least a portion of the frame of the trailer rests at ground level when treating animals.

13. (Currently Amended) The mobile animal hospital as defined in claim 12 further comprising an offset walkway leading from the back of the trailer to the entrance portion of the squeeze chute, the offset walkway forcing the animals to proceed in single file to ~~the~~an entrance portion of the squeeze chute.

14. (Currently Amended) The mobile animal hospital as defined in claim 12 further comprising:

a first gate hinged proximate to a first side of the trailer and also proximate to ~~the~~a front of the trailer;

a second gate hinged proximate to a second side of the trailer and also proximate to the front of the trailer;

a third gate hinged substantially at a center of the trailer and also proximate to the front of the trailer; and

wherein the first, second and third gate may be selectively arranged to allow egress of the animals off one of the first and second sides of the trailer after the animal exits the squeeze chute.

15. (Original) The mobile animal hospital as defined in claim 12 further comprising a set of fence panels connected to the back of the trailer, wherein the set of fence panels is adapted to fold up proximate to the back of the trailer for relocation, and wherein the set of fence panels is adapted to form a squeeze pen when unfolded.

16. (Currently Amended) The mobile animal hospital as defined in claim 15 wherein the set of fence panels connected to the back of the trailer further comprises:

a first fence panel connected to and extending substantially perpendicular from the back of the trailer when in the unfolded configuration, the first fence panel connected on a first side of an entrance to an offset walkway leading to the squeeze chute;

a second fence panel connected to and extending substantially perpendicular from the back of the trailer when in the unfolded configuration, the second fence panel connected on a second side of the entrance to the offset walkway;

a circular fence panel connected to the second fence panel, the circular fence panel's radius of curvature pointing away from the first fence panel; and

a gate panel connected to the first fence panel, the gate configured to swing within an area bounded in part by the circular fence panel.

17. (Original) The mobile animal hospital as defined in claim 12 further comprising:

a first hydraulic cylinder connected to a wheel on the first side of the trailer, and also connected to the frame, the first hydraulic cylinder configured to selectively raise and lower the wheel on the first side of the trailer; and

a second hydraulic cylinder connected to a wheel on the second side of the trailer, and also connected to the frame, the second hydraulic cylinder configured to selectively raise and lower the wheel on the first side of the trailer.

18-31 (Cancelled)

32. (New) The mobile animal hospital as defined in claim 12 wherein the trailer further comprises at least one feature selected from the group: a computer operable for use while treating an animal; a sink mounted to the trailer; and a refrigerator mounted on the trailer.

33. (New) A structure comprising:

a trailer having tongue, a frame, and at least one set of wheels; and

a squeeze chute coupled to the frame of the trailer, and wherein the position of the squeeze chute relative to the tongue is the same for both treating animals using the squeeze chute and relocation of the trailer;

wherein the at least one set of wheels is adapted to raise relative to the frame of the trailer such that at least a portion of the frame of the trailer rests at ground level when treating animals.

34. (New) The structure as defined in claim 33 further comprising the squeeze chute having an entrance portion and an exit portion, and wherein the exit portion faces the tongue of the trailer.

Appl. No. 10/622,157
Amdt. dated February 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 30, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In the Office Action dated December 30, 2003, the Examiner objected to drawing Figure 1 as allegedly requiring "prior art" legend. The attached replacement sheet 1/5 has been amended only to add the designation "prior art."

Attachment: Replacement Sheet